



THE KALIFORNSKI

Autumn in Plitvice Lakes



*Scenic Autumn landscape and beautiful waterfall
in the Plitvice Lakes National Park in Croatia*

NEWSLETTER OF THE SLAVIC-AMERICAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION
P.O. BOX 226 - WATSONVILLE, CA. 95077
(A NON-PROFIT - NON-RELIGIOUS & NON-POLITICAL ORGANIZATION)

EDITORS:
AGNES GOSPODNETIĆ MIFSUD
NINA MATULICH

AUTUMN 2012





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Autumn Everyone!

At our BBQ Picnic held on Sunday, July 8, 2012 at the Corralitos Padre Park, there was a total of 240 adults and 3 children served, also including 4 takeouts. Of course, thank you Peter Kovacich and his crew for cooking up some great food, as usual.

Guests of S.A.C.O. included 2 scholarship recipients and 4 parents, along with 7 musicians of the Novi Stari Tamburiza. Carolyn Bahr and her amazing musicians were fabulous and they played all the old favorites. Our new S.A.C.O. member, Herb Lundin also joined the group for a few songs playing his accordion. Puno Hvala to all!!!

Many thanks go out to the helpers - Nina Matulich on reservations, Helen Marinovich Ukestad and Charles Ukestad on drawing tickets, Mary Marinovich Siefke and Norma Hansen on drink tickets, Agnes Gospodnetić Mifsud and Lizz Matulich on dessert serving and Linda Wathen Espejo on door table help. The raffle drawing helpers calling out numbers were Agnes & Mike Mifsud.

Bartenders were John Vodanovich and Mike Mifsud. Great job everyone!!

Our next S.A.C.O. event will be our Christmas Dinner on Saturday, December 8, 2012 at the Watsonville Woman's Club.
See you there!

Steve Belick



S.A.C.O. OFFICERS

President ~ Steve Belick ~ 477-7523

Vice-President ~ Peter Kovacich

Treasurer ~ Agnes Gospodnetić Mifsud ~ 637-2744

Recording Secretary ~ Linda Wathen Espejo ~ 724-2892

Financial Secretary ~ Nina Matulich ~ 724-7971



S.A.C.O. COMING EVENT

December 8, 2012 ~ Christmas Dinner

IN MEMORIAM

Edith "Edie" Stene

86 years ~ August 30, 2012 ~ LaSelva Beach, CA

Mother to Vic, Janice, Mark & Edie



BELATED BIRTHDAY WISHES!!!

A belated bouquet of Birthday Wishes to Lucy Selak that turned "100" on March 2, 2012 ~
CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Son ~ Mitchel Selak





MORE BIRTHDAY WISHES!!!!

A bouquet of Birthday Wishes to Ann Capitanich Carey Scurich that turned "100" on September 9, 2012. CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Son ~ Patrick Carey

Daughter ~ Judy Carey Eiskamp

6 grandchildren & 3 great-grandchildren



CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Nina,

We all had a wonderful time playing for the S.A.C.O. picnic at Corralitos. As usual, the crowd was friendly and responsive. The food was outstanding. All those wonderful homemade reflect all the good bakers you have in your organization. We will put July 7, 2013 on our calendar for next year.

Thank you for thinking of us and inviting us year after year.

Sincerely,

Caroline Bahr

Novi Stari Tamburaši



Hi Nina,

Enclosed is my \$12 check for a year's dues. I do so enjoy the Kalifornski newsletter. It is very informative ~ and full of so many nice features.

Best wishes always,

Marie Ostojica Lucas

Sacramento, CA



Dear Agnes,

Just wanted to thank you for an excellent newsletter ~ AGAIN ~ and the wonderful articles that bring so many memories back to me. I hope to make one of the local events so that I can meet you first hand, and thank you for all of your work spotlighting the Croatian Community as it was then and as it is now.

I could not find an address for Judy Hager to tell her how much I enjoyed her article on her travels and her discoveries while she was there. Her writing style is very descriptive and easy to follow. I would hope more people would be encouraged to share their visits and experiences. Please pass on my thanks to her for sharing her travels with us. I found the graphics while a little small very colorful, enlightening and entertaining.

Sincerely,

Louis Arbanas

Watsonville, CA

THANK YOU'S ~ 2012 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Dear S.A.C.O.,

Thank you so much for your generous scholarship of \$600. These funds will help greatly towards my college bills. I am very proud of my heritage and am honored to receive this scholarship.

Thank you,

John Yvanovich ~ S.A.C.O. Scholarship Recipient 2012



John Yvanovich ~ S.A.C.O. picnic





MORE THANK YOU'S ~

Dear Antonio Violich,

I am writing you in regards to your greatly appreciated \$600 S.A.C.O. scholarship. Receiving this scholarship made me filled with joy and I felt very special to be the recipient to get it. I apologize for not being able to attend the S.A.C.O. BBQ on July 8th. I wish I could have made it to thank you in person.

I am an Audio Engineer major with music being a strong impact of what I am going to do for my career. I plan to work in music programs and my community upon graduation from CSU Dominguez Hills in the next six years.

I would like to thank you again for awarding me the S.A.C.O. scholarship. With this scholarship, I can now fulfill my dream of going to college and start the journey of my career. You have inspired me to help my community and help others to achieve their dreams and goals like you have helped me.

Sincerely,

Bianca Gera ~ S.A.C.O. Scholarship Recipient 2012

Dear S.A.C.O. members,

Thank you very much for honoring me with your scholarship. I am currently attending Monterey Peninsula College and will be playing basketball for them. I greatly appreciate your award and will put it to good use in furthering my education. Enclosed is my Fall schedule at M.P.C.

Thank you,

Ivo Basor ~ S.A.C.O. Scholarship Recipient 2012



Ivo Basor ~ S.A.C.O. picnic

CROATIAN RECIPE

KOLAC od JABUKE ~ APPLE CAKE

In a large bowl beat 2 eggs; add 1 cup of oil (Canola). Add 2 cups of sugar and mix. Let stand for 30 minutes.

Sift: 2 cups flour 1 tsp. baking soda
 1/2 tsp. salt 1 tsp. cinnamon

Add 1 tsp. of lemon juice or extract to the egg/oil above, add 4 cups of diced apples; stir, then add the flour mixture, then fold in 1 cup of chopped walnuts. Bake in a 9x13 baking dish-greased and floured; bake at 355°F for 45 minutes. Sprinkle with powdered sugar. **MOIST AND DELICIOUS!!!**





PRIZES

BBQ Picnic ~ Sunday, July 8, 2012

Norma Hansen
Helen Marinovich Ukestad
Betty Kesovia Bobeda
Nina Matulich
S.A.C.O.
Steve Belick
Tom Simmons~strawberries
John Vodanovich
Bob Leonardich
Frank Harris
Christina Justus Garcia
Betty Glavinic Jones
Pete Harris
Lillian Jercich Nielsen
Valerie Justus Rusconi
Lizz Matulich Hunter
Herb Lundin

Lucille Matiasovich Giorvas
Nick Drobac
Ted Nizenkoff
Pat Gospodnetich Solano~plants
Katie Zupan
Alex Solano~plants
Mark Davis
Jim Dutra~raspberries
Deborah Davis
Ann Banovac Moresco~strawberries
Eric Del Piero
Carol Harris
Anne Lukrich Dobler
Patsy Mills
Diane Robey
Genevieve Simunovich

DESSERTS



Norma Hansen
Helen Marinovich Ukestad
Steve Millich
Karen Belick
S.A.C.O.
Mary Marinovich Siefke
Carol Harris
Ed Shean
Mary Lipanovich
Katie Zupan
Judy Hager
Ethlyn Miller
Christina Justus Garcia
Judy Carey Eiskamp
Slavica Kusanovich Zalac
Betty Glavinic Jones
Lillian Jercich Nielsen
Teresa Del Piero
Janey Leonardich
AnnaMarie Pavlovich Dugger
Susan Gallagher
Genevieve Simunovich
Eileen Sambrailo

HVALA PUNO ~ Thank you very much with appreciation!

Nina Matulich



S.A.C.O. MEMBERS

Dear S.A.C.O. Members:

Last year we published, "The Slav Community of Watsonville, as reported in old newspapers (1881-1920)". We have recently received funding to continue this research of the newspapers.

This new book, in two volumes, will come out in about a year. The book will reprint the articles or items that appeared in the Evening Pajaronian newspaper (a daily) for the years 1920 through 1929. There were many births, marriages, and deaths reported, as well as articles on the apple industry, packing house fires, bootlegging arrests, new immigrants, naturalization~even traffic tickets. We are looking for photos to illustrate these events.

As in the first book, we will try to illustrate births with a photo of the child, marriages with a photo of the couple, etc. If you have such photos pertaining to the years 1920~1929, illustrating Slav people or activities in Watsonville, please let us copy them for inclusion in this book. Such photos will greatly increase the historical value of this book, especially for your descendants many years from now. Your original photos do not need to leave your house ~ they can be copied right there, if you like. The process is quick and easy.

The first book, covering up to 1920, is still available from Crossroads Books in Watsonville, or from me. There are only 5 or 6 books left, and it will not be reprinted. Also, the Watsonville library now has a copy that can be loaned out.

Tom Ninkovich
Slavic History Project
629 Main St., #115
Watsonville, CA 95076
831-247-4456
mail to: tom@croatia-in-english.com



FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

If you are looking for Croatian items such as shirts, posters, art and more gift ideas, this website is awesome!!
just go to: www.zazzle.co.uk/croatia+cards.com

Also for great traditional & Made in Croatia items go to: www.croatiagifts.com

Hope you find what you like! Enjoy!!

AUTUMN OLIVE HARVEST IN CROATIA

If you are looking for an alternative experience when traveling to Croatia in the Autumn, then participating in the olive harvest and festival would be quite an experience! This experience can be done on the Island of Hvar. In just a few weeks, olive harvesting on the Dalmatian Coast begins traditionally on All Saint's Day. The olive tree is a symbol of Dalmatia and also the olive branch is used as a sign of peace throughout the world.

Olive growing has a long tradition on Hvar, dating back more than 2,000 years to its introduction by the Ancient Greeks, who founded the settlement of Faros (present-day Stari Grad) in 384 BC. Given the long olive tradition, it is not surprising that growing and picking techniques have been handed down from generation to generation. Visitors are more than welcomed to help and take part in this experience. A day's picking is a great way to form local friendships. Help is usually rewarded with a hearty meal in the field or a bottle of oil as a souvenir. Given that most olive groves are family-owned, it is a team effort and a time for family to come together. Picking methods vary from shaking the trees with the olives falling on sheets on the ground or individual picking. Both are very time-consuming. Individual pickers often wear pouches then emptied into buckets. The heaviest work is transporting the sacks or containers of olives over sometimes rocky paths to the trailer and then on to the presses. Processing is about an hour, after which the freshly pressed oil is ready for collection. The oil can be used immediately but it is advisable to wait a few days for the oil to settle.

Another great destination known for its olive trees is the Island of Šolta. The place Maslinica owes its name to these trees (maslina-meaning olive). The olives are carefully "hand-picked" from the trees. Once the olives are picked, there are several ways of curing before going to press. Some will soak the olives in wood barrels of sea salt water, some in large plastic barrels of pure rain water, some in nothing at all and will take their harvest to press right away. The locals use different methods, depending on their family traditions. In Šolta, you can experience firsthand the traditional ways of harvest and production. It'll be just one of the many new experiences that you'll enjoy!

There is another terrific destination - the Island of Brač which also has olive harvesting and a festival at its best. You will feel as if you traveled back in time. Olives are harvested on Brač in October/November. They are processed the same day, or at the latest a day or two after picking. Some farmers still use donkeys to carry bags of olives to home presses or the refinery to make the olive oil. There are a few refineries on Brač today: Milna, Lozica, Mirca, Pusišća and Postira where the olives are pressed in the old fashioned way. Because of its extra quality, it makes an ideal accompaniment to fresh salad, grilled fish or boiled vegetables. Brač olive oil is not only indispensable in the kitchen, but has medicinal and cosmetic applications.

In the town of Postira, Brač, the "Obilica Festival" - Days of Olive Trees and Olive Oil takes place, because there is the largest number of the olive tree growers among the islands in the Republic of Croatia. It is estimated that there are about 600,000 olive trees cultivated. The local growers association represents the third of top olive oil producers in Croatia. One is able to taste and enjoy the supreme quality extra virgin and traditional cold pressed olive oils. Also, you can experience the highest prized local products that have earned international recognition in quality and taste.

You will definitely experience the legacy of the different cultures and people that have inhabited this region for centuries and that have, all of them, loved this land with passion. Enjoy the entertainment and great food! If you want to know more about Brač's olives and olive oil, you can visit the unique Museum of Oil Production that is housed in the former oil refinery in the village of Mirca, located on the northern part of the island. The refinery's machinery, which dates back to the 1950's, is still operational today and there is a large collection of photographs, old machines, olive products and other exhibits which show the process of obtaining olive oil, as well as demonstrating the importance of olives and olive oil to the inhabitants of Brač through the centuries.



Donkeys carrying bags of olives

Olives in crates to be pressed

Island of Brač



Oil Museum in Brač



Olives being hand-picked

Island of Šolta

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CROATIAN OLYMPIC WINNERS!!!

Croatia is celebrating its sports heroes! The Olympics in London will be remembered as the most successful in Croatian history. There were 108 athletes representing Croatia winning the total of six medals: 3 Gold medals, 1 Silver medal and 2 Bronze medals, which is the highest number of medals won. For a country of 4.3 million (we are the 7th country in the world!) and being ranked 25th in the Olympics, leaving behind some much bigger and wealthier countries like Denmark, Poland, Canada, Sweden, India, Belgium, Portugal, Argentina, Mexico.....is really impressive. Croatia surely has a lot to celebrate! BRAVO!!!!

Gold medalists are: Sandra Perković at Women's discus, Giovanni Cernogoraz (Istra) at Shooting - Men's trap-Shotgun and the Croatian National Water Polo Team.

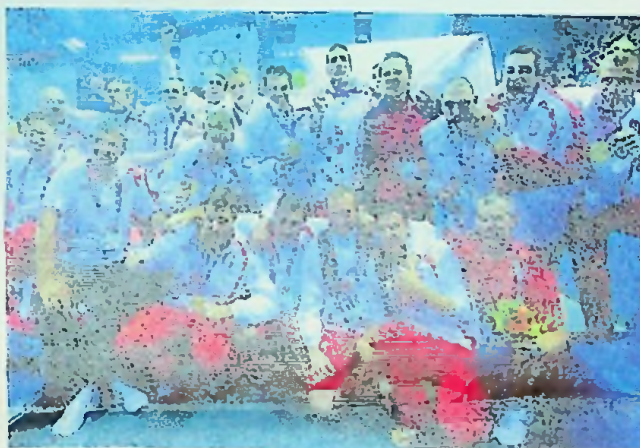
Silver medal: Men's Rowing Quadruple Scull

Bronze medalists are: Lucija Zaninović at Taekwondo and the Croatian National Handball team

GOLD



Sandra Perković ~ Women's Discus



Croatian National Water Polo Team



Giovanni Cernogoraz

Shooting-Men's Trap-Shotgun



SILVER

Men's Rowing Quadruple Sculls



Croatian National Handball Team

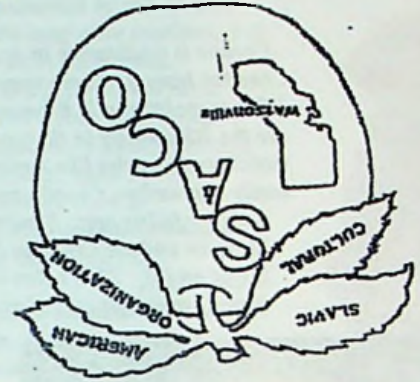
BRONZE



Lucija Zaninović ~ Taikwondo

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!!!!

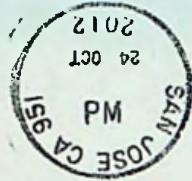
DATED MATERIAL - Please Rush



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